

# the condition of education 2005



## INDICATOR 1

### Past and Projected Elementary and Secondary Public School Enrollments

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2005*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2005*, visit the NCES website (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.sap?pubid=2005094>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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# Elementary/Secondary Education

## Past and Projected Elementary and Secondary Public School Enrollments

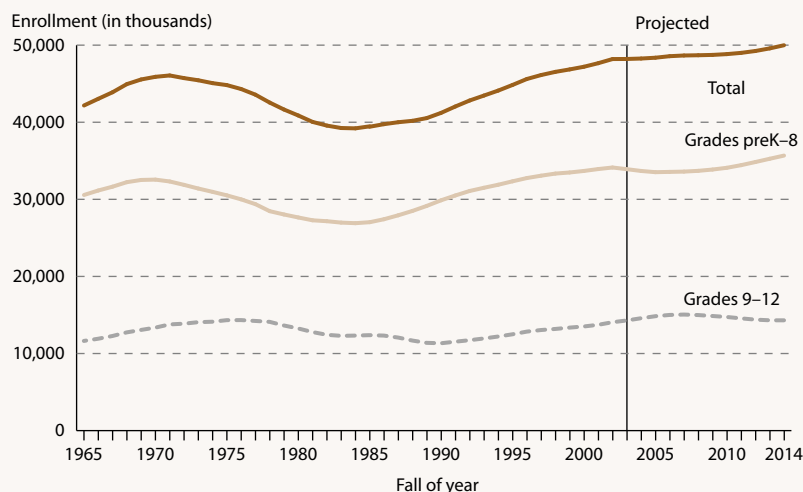
*Public elementary and secondary enrollment is projected to increase to 50 million in 2014. The West is projected to experience the largest increase in enrollments.*

Rising immigration—the immigrant population nearly tripled from 1970 to 2000 (Schmidley 2001)—and the baby boom echo—the 25 percent increase in the number of annual births that began in the mid-1970s and peaked in 1990 (Hamilton, Sutton, and Ventura 2003)—are boosting school enrollment. After declining during the 1970s and early 1980s, enrollment in public schools for prekindergarten (preK) through grade 12 increased in the latter part of the 1980s, throughout the 1990s, and through the first half of the 2000s, reaching an estimated 48.3 million in 2004 (see supplemental table 1-1). Total enrollments are projected to increase each year from 2005 through 2014 to an all-time high of 50.0 million. The trends in enrollment in grades preK–8 and 9–12 have differed over time as students move through the system. For example, enrollment in grades preK–8 decreased throughout the 1970s and early 1980s, while enrollment in grades 9–12 decreased in the late 1970s and throughout the 1980s. Public school enrollment in grades preK–8 is projected to decrease to 33.5 million in 2005 and then to begin increasing, reaching 35.7 million in 2014. Enrollment in grades

9–12 is projected to increase through 2007 to a high of 15.1 million before decreasing to 14.3 million in 2014.

Examining enrollment trends by region reveals that since 1965 the South has had a larger share of public enrollment than other regions in the United States. During that period, the regional distribution of students in public schools changed, with the West and South both increasing their percentage share of total enrollment. In 1965, the South comprised 33 percent of public elementary and secondary school enrollments, followed by the Midwest (28 percent), the Northeast (21 percent), and the West (18 percent). By 2004, the South's and West's shares of enrollment were projected to increase to 36 and 24 percent, respectively, followed by the Midwest (22 percent) and the Northeast (17 percent). Between 2005 and 2014, the West is projected to continue increasing its share of total public enrollment. Over this period, public enrollment in grades preK–12 is expected to decrease in the Northeast and Midwest and to increase in the South and West.

**SCHOOL ENROLLMENT: Public elementary and secondary enrollment in prekindergarten through grade 12, by grade level, with projections: Fall 1965–2014**



NOTE: Includes kindergarten and most prekindergarten enrollment.

SOURCE: Hussar, W. (forthcoming). *Projections of Education Statistics to 2014* (NCES 2005–065), tables 1 and 4 and U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) (forthcoming) *Digest of Education Statistics 2004* (NCES 2005–079), table 37. Data from U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 1986–2002 and "Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary School Systems," various years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Supplemental Notes 1, 3

Supplemental Table 1-1

Schmidley (2001)

Hamilton, Sutton, and Ventura (2003)



## Past and Projected Elementary and Secondary School Enrollments

**Table 1-1. Public elementary and secondary enrollment in prekindergarten through grade 12, by grade level and region, with projections: Fall 1965–2013**

[Totals in thousands]											
Fall of year	Total enrollment			Total enrollment preK–12 by region							
	Grades preK–12	Grades preK–8	Grades 9–12	Northeast		Midwest		South		West	
				Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
1965	42,173	30,563	11,610	8,833	20.9	11,834	28.1	13,834	32.8	7,568	17.9
1970	45,894	32,558	13,336	9,860	21.5	12,936	28.2	14,759	32.2	8,339	18.2
1975	44,819	30,515	14,304	9,679	21.6	12,295	27.4	14,654	32.7	8,191	18.3
1980	40,877	27,647	13,231	8,215	20.1	10,698	26.2	14,134	34.6	7,831	19.2
1985	39,422	27,034	12,388	7,318	18.6	9,862	25.0	14,117	35.8	8,124	20.6
1986	39,753	27,420	12,333	7,294	18.3	9,871	24.8	14,312	36.0	8,276	20.8
1987	40,008	27,933	12,076	7,252	18.1	9,870	24.7	14,419	36.0	8,468	21.2
1988	40,189	28,501	11,687	7,208	17.9	9,846	24.5	14,491	36.1	8,644	21.5
1989	40,543	29,152	11,390	7,200	17.8	9,849	24.3	14,605	36.0	8,889	21.9
1990	41,217	29,878	11,338	7,282	17.7	9,944	24.1	14,807	35.9	9,184	22.3
1991	42,047	30,506	11,541	7,407	17.6	10,080	24.0	15,081	35.9	9,479	22.5
1992	42,823	31,088	11,735	7,526	17.6	10,198	23.8	15,357	35.9	9,742	22.7
1993	43,465	31,504	11,961	7,654	17.6	10,289	23.7	15,591	35.9	9,931	22.8
1994	44,111	31,898	12,213	7,760	17.6	10,386	23.5	15,851	35.9	10,114	22.9
1995	44,840	32,341	12,500	7,894	17.6	10,512	23.4	16,118	35.9	10,316	23.0
1996	45,611	32,764	12,847	8,006	17.6	10,638	23.3	16,373	35.9	10,594	23.2
1997	46,127	33,073	13,054	8,085	17.5	10,704	23.2	16,563	35.9	10,775	23.4
1998	46,539	33,346	13,193	8,145	17.5	10,722	23.0	16,713	35.9	10,959	23.5
1999	46,857	33,488	13,369	8,196	17.5	10,726	22.9	16,842	35.9	11,093	23.7
2000	47,204	33,688	13,515	8,222	17.4	10,730	22.7	17,007	36.0	11,244	23.8
2001	47,672	33,938	13,734	8,250	17.3	10,745	22.5	17,237	36.2	11,440	24.0
2002	48,202	34,135	14,067	8,297	17.2	10,835	22.5	17,472	36.2	11,598	24.1
Projected											
2003	48,213	33,917	14,296	8,281	17.2	10,781	22.4	17,490	36.3	11,662	24.2
2004	48,270	33,686	14,584	8,247	17.1	10,741	22.3	17,541	36.3	11,741	24.3
2005	48,375	33,528	14,847	8,208	17.0	10,720	22.2	17,611	36.4	11,836	24.5
2006	48,574	33,565	15,010	8,179	16.8	10,719	22.1	17,727	36.5	11,949	24.6
2007	48,664	33,603	15,060	8,126	16.7	10,694	22.0	17,793	36.6	12,050	24.8
2008	48,696	33,702	14,994	8,063	16.6	10,652	21.9	17,847	36.7	12,133	24.9
2009	48,740	33,870	14,871	8,005	16.4	10,611	21.8	17,894	36.7	12,230	25.1
2010	48,842	34,097	14,745	7,954	16.3	10,583	21.7	17,956	36.8	12,348	25.3
2011	49,004	34,439	14,565	7,916	16.2	10,569	21.6	18,033	36.8	12,486	25.5
2012	49,248	34,846	14,402	7,894	16.0	10,575	21.5	18,135	36.8	12,645	25.7
2013	49,584	35,268	14,315	7,889	15.9	10,598	21.4	18,266	36.8	12,831	25.9
2014	49,993	35,681	14,312	7,902	15.8	10,636	21.3	18,413	36.8	13,042	26.1

NOTE: Includes kindergarten and most prekindergarten enrollment. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. *Supplemental note 1* identifies the states in each region. See *supplemental note 3* for more information on the Common Core of Data (CCD).

SOURCE: Hussar, W. (forthcoming). *Projections of Education Statistics to 2014* (NCES 2005–065), tables 1 and 4 and U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) (forthcoming) *Digest of Education Statistics 2004* (NCES 2005–079), table 37. Data from U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education," 1986–2002 and "Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary School Systems," various years.